

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 762 - SB 810

March 20, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Changes, from five to three, the number of allowed unexcused absences that a student may accrue before a parent is sent written notice that their student has been absent more than the allowable number of days. This change applies to the regular school day and to remedial instruction. Requires notice to be sent to the appropriate law enforcement or other agency officials after a second written notice has been sent by the local education agency to a parent and compliance has not occurred. Notice of truancy shall be sent to the appropriate presiding juvenile court after the second written notice has been sent and a child has been absent six or more days without an excuse. After a student has been absent for six or more days during the academic year, and the child is adjudicated unruly, the judge may assess a fine of up to \$50 dollars or five hours of community service against the parents or legal guardians of the child. Prohibits a child who has had four excused absences during a semester from receiving another excused absence without an adequate written excuse from a doctor, court official, or other adult with knowledge of the student's reason for being absent. As an alternative to prosecution after their child has been absent six or more days with an unexcused absence, parents may be given the opportunity to participate in parent education training and parent-teacher conferences.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- There will not be a sufficient increase in the number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.
- No change in the number of children who will be placed in state custody.
- No change in the Basic Education Program (BEP) funding formula.
- Any increase in local expenditures to send out additional absentee notices to parents or to the appropriate juvenile court is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding".

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

HB 762 - SB 810

/msg